

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 PARIS 20195 121154Z  
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W  
-----018848 121155Z /43  
R 121145Z JUL 77  
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5544  
INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

S E C R E T PARIS 20195

EXDIS

E.O.11652: XGDS-3  
TAGS: PINS ET SO SU YO  
SUBJ: HORN OF AFRICA AND CHAD

REF: STATE 160111

1. SUMMARY: ACCORDING TO QUAI POLITICAL DIRECTOR FRANCOIS DE LABOULAYE, YUGOSLAV DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER MOJSOV IS EXTREMELY PESSIMISTIC ABOUT THE CURRENT SITUATION IN THE HORN OF AFRICA AND ANTICIPATES FURTHER ARMED CONFLICT IN AND AROUND ETHIOPIA. THE FRENCH WERE UNABLE TO SMOKE OUT MOJSOV AS TO WHETHER YUGOSLAVIA HAS SUPPLIED TANKS OR OTHER MILITARY EQUIPMENT TO ETHIOPIA. LABOULAYE ASKS WHETHER WE HAVE ANY CONFIRMATION OF YUGOSLAV ARMS SHIPMENTS TO ETHIOPIA. ACTION REQUESTED: ANY INFORMATION WE MIGHT GIVE THE QUAI ON THIS MATTER. END SUMMARY.

2. IN AMBASSADOR HARTMAN'S INITIAL MEETING WITH LABOULAYE ON JULY 11, THE LATTER GAVE US FILL-IN ABOUT PARIS TALKS LAST WEEK WITH YUGOSLAV DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER MOJSOV. LABOULAYE SAID THAT YUGOSLAVIA APPEARS FIRMLY COMMITTED TO SUPPORT FOR ETHIOPIA, BUT DISCREET PROBING BY FOREIGN MINISTER GUIRINGAUD AND HIMSELF HAD  
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FAILED TO CONFIRM THAT THE YUGOSLAVS ARE ACTUALLY SENDING TANKS OR OTHER MILITARY EQUIPMENT TO THE MENGITSU REGIME. THE FRENCH WOULD APPRECIATE ANYTHING WE CAN FURNISH ON THIS MATTER.

3. MOJSOV IMPRESSED THE FRENCH WITH HIS EXTREMELY PESSIMISTIC VIEW OF THE OUTLOOK IN THE HORN OF AFRICA.

HE THOUGHT THAT WAR WAS POSSIBLE ON SEVERAL FRONTS, INCLUDING THE SUDAN. THE YUGOSLAVS THOUGHT THAT ETHIOPIA WOULD ULTIMATELY WIN ANY MILITARY TEST OF STRENGTH IN THE AREA. MOJSOV SAID THAT THE YUGOSLAVS WERE VERY FEARFUL OF A WIDENING OF THE CONFLICT WITH POSSIBLE BIG-POWER INVOLVEMENT, HOWEVER.

4. MOJSOV TOLD LABOULAYE THAT THE YUGOSLAVS HAD ADVISED MENGITSU TO ACCORD AUTONOMY TO ERITREA BUT HE HAD FLATLY REFUSED. MENGITSU CLAIMED THAT, IF HE GAVE AUTONOMY TO ONE PART OF ETHIOPIA, OTHERS WOULD DEMAND SIMILAR TREATMENT AND THIS WOULD LEAD TO THE COUNTRY'S BREAKUP.

5. AMBASSADOR HARTMAN TOOK THE OCCASION TO CONFIRM TO LABOULAYE THAT THE VICE PRESIDENT OF CHAD IS EN ROUTE TO WASHINGTON AS INDICATED IN REFTEL AND PREVIOUS. LABOULAYE WONDERED WHETHER THE US, UNDER CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES, MIGHT BE PREPARED TO ENCOURAGE OTHERS TO GIVE MILITARY SUPPORT TO CHAD EVEN IF IT COULD NOT MAKE MILITARY SUPPLIES AVAILABLE.

6. DEPT REPEAT OTHER POSTS AS DESIRED.  
HARTMAN

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, POLITICAL SITUATION, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION, MEETING REPORTS  
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**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
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**TAGS:** PINS, ET, SO, SU, YO, (MOJSOV, LAZAR), (DE LABOULAYE, FRANCOIS)  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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